Action Plan for boosting exports during 1992-93. These include formation of a national plan for export promotion of 34 commodities identified as "Extreme focus sectors", launching of a National Quality Awareness Programme, one to one meeting with export houses and leading industrial houses, launching of a world wide effort to revamp our external commercial representations, improve external publicity and undertake export promotion for our products in 40-50 select countries, reorganisation of the Office of Chief Controller of Imports and Exports from the present form of a regulatory authority to a pomotional body, etc. Besides, the Government has taken other steps which include reducing controls through licensing, simplification of procedures for export, activisation of Board of Trade, bilateral discussions with select countries, interaction with national organisations of Trade and Industry.

(c) According to provisional estimates, the export of non-traditional items increased from Rs. 23023 crores during 1990-91 to Rs. 30708 crores during 1991-92, thereby registering a growth of 33.4%.

Meeting of chairman of Tobacco Board with traders

491. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chairman of Tobacco Board had a series of meetings with traders during the last one year;

(b) if so, how many meetings actually took place; and

(c) what points were discussed thereat?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) Every year the Chairman, Tobacco Board convenes several meetings with traders and the office bearers of Indian Tobacco Association to discuss day-to-day issues relating to tobacco auctions and exports. As these are informal meetings convened at short notice, record of discussions or minutes are not maintained. The subjects discussed at these meetings broadly include the following:

1. Prices at auction platforms
2. Crop size of tobacco
3. Problems of traders (General)
4. Problems relating to Bank finance
5. Problems relating to shipments
6. Tobacco stock requirements
7. Export trends
8. New markets
9. International trends etc.
10. Minimum guarantee price (MGP)

The suggestions offered by the trade in these meetings are kept in view while preparing the Board's policies/action plan etc.

Export potential in M.P.

492. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have done any survey in Madhya Pradesh to find out its Export potential in the recent past;

(b) if so, what is the finding thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken a decision to give special incentives to the exporters of Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Trade Development Authority (now India Trade Promotion Organisation) prepared an Approach Paper on Action Plan for promotion of exports from Madhya Pradesh in 1990. The following products